



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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March 17, 2009

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WM-7**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**SANTA MONICA BAY BEACHES BACTERIA WET-WEATHER TOTAL
MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD, JURISDICTIONS 1 AND 4 UNINCORPORATED
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AREA, PHASE I,
WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 3)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to award and execute a consultant services agreement with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., in the amount of \$574,900 to prepare feasibility studies and conceptual engineering design plans for the wet-weather improvement projects for the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load, Jurisdictions 1 and 4 unincorporated County of Los Angeles area, and encumber up to an additional \$57,490 for unforeseen project costs.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed project is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to award and execute a consultant services agreement in the amount of \$574,900 to prepare feasibility studies and conceptual engineering design plans for the wet-weather improvement projects for the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load for Jurisdictions 1 and 4 unincorporated County of Los Angeles area.

3. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to award up to an additional \$57,490 for unforeseen project costs.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to enter into a consultant services agreement with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., to perform engineering services to assist the County of Los Angeles (County) in complying with the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements. As required by the TMDL, the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Wet-Weather Bacteria TMDL Implementation Plan was submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on August 30, 2005. This plan outlined practical Best Management Practices (BMPs), treatment opportunities, and other TMDL compliance strategies to be completed over an 18-year period.

The scope of services consists of identifying site locations and evaluating opportunities within the County unincorporated areas of Jurisdictions 1 and 4 in the North Santa Monica Bay Region for structural BMPs that will incorporate on-site capture and infiltration or reuse of stormwater runoff. In addition, an assessment will be conducted at a County-owned parcel near the outlet of Latigo Canyon for constructing a subsurface flow wetland system.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Organizational Effectiveness (Goal 3) because the specialized expertise and staff resources to perform the required services within the limited timeframe are not currently available within Public Works. This project is consistent with the provision of Community Services (Goal 6) since it improves the quality of life for the residents of unincorporated areas of the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This project is for an estimated not-to-exceed cost of \$632,390. This includes a contract in the amount of \$574,900 and up to \$57,490 contingency for unforeseen project costs.

Sufficient funds for this work have been included in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Flood Control District Budget. When the need arises for services under this contract, financing the required services will be made from the appropriate fund source. If the work is not completed in the current fiscal year, it will be done in subsequent fiscal years provided that adequate funding is available.

Your Board approved reimbursement from the General Fund net County cost to the Flood Control District in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Budget for stormwater and urban runoff quality engineering services related to the County unincorporated area.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The contract will include identifying site locations, evaluating opportunities, and preparing conceptual reports for structural BMPs that will incorporate on-site capture and infiltration or reuse of stormwater runoff.

The contract will be a consultant services agreement in a form approved by County Counsel and will contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs.

Data regarding the proposers' minority participation are on file with Public Works. The contractor was selected upon the final analysis and consideration without regard to race, creed, gender, or color.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines pursuant to Section 15262. The proposed services consist of the development of feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Any future project(s) that may be proposed for construction or implementation will undergo the appropriate environmental review.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On May 16, 2007, Public Works sent out a Request for Proposals to develop a select list of engineering consultants. The proposals were sent to 53 firms and advertised on the County webpage. A total of 14 firms responded to the Request for Proposals.

An evaluation committee comprised of Public Works' staff evaluated the proposals and selected five firms as the best qualified firms for the Select List of Qualified Consultants (SLQC) for watershed management and stormwater-quality-related tasks. The firms selected were Tetra Tech, Inc.; WRC Consulting Services, Inc.; Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.; RBF Consulting; and MWH Americas. The selection was done without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. As projects develop, Public Works selects consultants in order of established ranking from the SLQC. Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., was the next firm on the SLQC for this project.

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Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program, County Code Chapter 2.201, does not apply to the recommended agreement as this agreement is for non-Proposition A services.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, and to further increase consultant awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, this contract opportunity was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will have no negative impact on current County services or projects during the performance of the recommended consultant services.

CONCLUSION

Please return two adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

GF:MP:ad

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)